



STRENGTH

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BEGINNING ANEW

*A lecture given at Serenity Spiritualist Church on Dec. 7, 1975
through the mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin*

I am scheduled this morning for a lecture entitled *Beginning Anew*, and how appropriate that indeed as another link is added to the chain that leads ever upward to freedom and to the Divine, which is a consciousness that we are in this moment, that we start off seeing a new year only a matter of days away; that we see, always hopefully, that it will be a little bit better than yesterday, that it will take the good of the moment and project it forward into the universe for our own benefit, which, in truth, is a benefit to this world.

My good friends, in this Association for many years much has been spoken on the universal, infallible, divine laws of God — the laws of Divine, Infinite Intelligence. We have also spoken on the laws that man establishes, and we know that man's establishment of law is an obstruction, a temporary obstruction, to the laws of the Divine, for the divine laws of God are infallible, immutable laws. They are laws upon which all souls may rely. There, and there alone, lies the security in a world that is governed and

controlled by the Law of Progression which is the law of constant change.

What is it that changes for man but his own mind? His soul, his divine, infinite, eternal spirit — it does not change. It is the way that it was; it is the way that it is, and it will always be that way. It is the divine law of God that all souls shall be free. It is the law of man that the soul shall be bound, that the soul shall suffer. It suffers from a lack of expressing its own divinity, and that divinity is the fullness and the freedom and the joy of life itself. However, each moment, each day, in all of our activities we continue to establish what is known as man's law. We rely upon the effect of our efforts, we rely upon those effects in keeping with what our minds have accepted from past experiences. And because our minds have accepted that this is possible and that is not, that this is probable and that is not, we limit the expression of our own fullness of life. It is because in the relying upon the limited acceptances in our own mind — it is because of that — that we suffer. It is

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BEGINNING ANEW

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because of that reliance upon our mind that we have denied God. We speak in words about God. We talk about it, and oft-times think we are doing something about it in our lives but when it comes down to the application of what we say we believe, we run into great difficulty. We run into the difficulty of the reliance that we have upon the experiences in our mind that controlled our life in yesterday and yesteryear.

And so it is, because of that reliance upon established mental patterns — because of that reliance — we deny our Godhood and we pay the price of obstruction, of standing in our own eternal light. We all want to be free. We especially want to be free when we are experiencing difficulties and suffering. When things are going the way that our mind says is pleasant to us, there is not much thought, let alone interest, in divine law. But things do not always go the way that our minds want them to go because our minds have created those laws. Those are created laws. They are not infinite laws, but they are laws of mental, mind substance, and that that is of mental, mind substance is creation. Now, creation is a Law of

Duality, a Law of Opposites, a law that dictates the positive and the negative in perfect rhythm and in perfect balance. And so it is that we can easily tell when we are relying upon mental so-called intellectual laws for the mind immediately dictates, according to its limitation, that it shall be a positive effect or it shall be a negative effect, and those relying upon the mind will have the wonderful confusion and contradiction that the intellect guarantees, for that is the very nature of the intellect to contradict — positive and negative — in order to maintain and to sustain its own mental balance.

Now, if the mind, if it was within the power of the mind to have balance without contradiction, then the minds of men would have balance without that Law of Duality. But because the minds of men are subservient to the Infinite Intelligent Divine Consciousness, the minds of men contradict themselves and a house divided cannot long endure, nor stand.

And so it is, in beginning anew that we make the effort to begin anew, a new attitude of mind, a new feeling about life, an effort of our own will not to dictate to ourselves, to

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THE PENETRALIA
 BEING HARMONIAL ANSWERS TO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS
 by Andrew Jackson Davis

Continued from last issue—

Who is the wisest man?

He is the wisest man who comprehendeth the boundaries of his own Ignorance, and knoweth the art of destroying them.

Who is the most successful man?

He is the most successful man who seeth the secret victory that ever dwelleth within any defeat which may follow an honest effort.

Who is the mightiest man?

He is the mightiest man who can, at all times and amid all circumstances, control the impulsions of Love by the voice of Wisdom.

Who is the greatest philanthropist?

He is the greatest philanthropist who does Good to some and harm to none.

Who is the most holy man?

He is most holy who never acts contrary to his highest perception of Right.

Who is the best neighbor?

He is the best neighbor who regulates his private affections and public deeds by the principle of Distributive Justice.

Who is the best husband?

He is the best husband

who, when you examine him by your highest attractions, hath the cleanest body and the purest spirit.

Who is the most excellent father?

He is the most excellent father who begets his offspring through the attractions of pure unadulterated conjugal affection; and who, when blest with the presence of childhood, is at once a friend, brother, playmate, and teacher.

Who is the best wife?

She is the best wife who, when you examine her by the intuitions of your highest temperament, is the sweetest girl, the truest friend, the gentlest sister, the most attractive women.

What is the law of personal progression?

The law of personal progression is to be found only in conscientious action for the benefit of others. The soul's strongest cardinal law is Action. When rightly directed, it tendeth, like a gently-flowing river, toward self-ennoblement and self-perfection: in deeds of good to mankind.

What is a humbug?

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BEGINNING ANEW

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our eternal infinite spirit how the effects of our efforts are going to be. When man is concerned, as men are with their minds on the effect of expended energy, they establish a dual law. They establish that law and though the seeming effect may seem to be good, it only guarantees the opposite, for they have stepped in the way with their self-importance, in the way of God's infinite eternal laws.

No matter what your thought of the moment may be, no matter what your chosen path may be, consider beginning anew — a new thought and a new attitude in reference to what it is you truly desire. Now, the mind or so-called brain, the vehicle through which it expresses, is controlled by what we call desire. And the minds of all men ever seek to balance for that is the law that governs nature — ever seek to balance the multitude of desires of the mind for the nature of the mind is desire. Without desire our souls would not be incarnated into what we call the form of this earth realm.

We understand that desire is the Divine Expression. Without it, man cannot express. But man must learn to choose wisely what he desires, for the

law is infallible and whatever it is you want in life, that very wanting is establishing that law, and believe me, my good friends, we always get what we really want. Now, oftentimes we don't think that we do, but we always do. We get the principle of the law which returns unto us. So it is, if a person says, *I desire to be a successful person in life*, that is an established law of the mind. Now the person will become a successful person. They may not become successful in the way that they think they are successful, but they will be successful according to the laws that their own minds have established. Afterall, a person cannot say that one who is a complete flop or failure in life is not successful, for they are successful in being a failure. And so, let us consider wisely what it is that we are choosing to be.

This philosophy understands that we are, in truth, spirit, formless and free; whatever we think, that and that alone we shall be, for that is our divinity. We have been given that divine, eternal choice. And so it is, when you seek to gain understanding, you will indeed gain understanding. You will gain whatever it is that you seek to

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Student's Corner



*by Duncan Robertson **

Nothing is ours until we apply it. To simply believe cannot bring us fulfillment. We can read every book ever published on how to be an auto mechanic, and will gain knowledge—but what is the value until it is put to use—until we put it into motion and apply it? We can gain more understanding in five minutes of working on an engine than we can in five hours of reading about it. It is the same with our spiritual studies. They will have no value and no meaning for us as individuals until we make the effort to apply them.

It takes faith to try something new or different from what we have accepted in our life to this point. It takes faith because to try something new we have to let go of the old, and we have found security in the patterns with which we are familiar. But we know that all things, including ourselves, change. Nature demonstrates that truth to us constantly.

We are not the same person we were a year ago or even a day ago, and we will not be the same tomorrow. If we must change, why not accept the change for the good? If we try to cling to yesterday it will be torn from us. But if we work today in the spirit of gratitude for the opportunity we are afforded—to express, to build, to understand—then we can know joy. We will not be troubled out of fear for tomorrow, for as the child is the father of the man, when we perceive the law we will have faith. We will know that the law never fails, and because it never fails, what we sow today we shall indeed reap tomorrow.

VIEWS OF OUR HEAVENLY HOME

by Andrew Jackson Davis

Continued from last issue—

In your scholastic pride, in your majestic assurance as fact-adoring scientists, you can neither afford to bandage your eyes nor to stuff your ears to spiritual facts; nor can you afford to be absorbed by, nor affectedly satisfied with, your own special theories, cognitions, and discoveries; because you have already acquired sufficient culture, and because you possess enough limited knowledge, to impress your judgment with the boundlessness of your ignorance concerning things and principles which animate and govern the surrounding universe of matter and mind. In visiting a country for the first time you consult maps drawn faithfully by stranger hands, and you also read guide-books written by primitive pioneer travellers who have braved and shunned the dangers and enjoyed the beauty, sublimity, and goodness of the remote region which (now that the pathways are all cut and cleared for you) you heroically set forth to explore. Incalculably more natural and more honest is it, that, not knowing anything absolutely essential concerning the splendid sublimities of infinitude, you should

read the guiding chapters hereby submitted to your serious investigation.

Chemists recently have enumerated sixty-eight elementary substances—meaning bodies which are simple, not containing anything beside themselves—not capable of either alteration or decomposition; such, for example, as the *solids*, called gold, iron, sulphur; the *fluids*, known as bromine, mercury, etc.; and the *gases*, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, etc. But with the development of scientific knowledge, is gradually being born the idea that there are a very few elementary substances—not less than two, nor more than five—out of which the stupendous system, with its infinite details, has been and is constructed. Thirty years ago the writer of these chapters was in a condition, intellectually and spiritually, to affirm that Fire, Heat, Light, and Electricity were and are the essentials from which the universe, as it now is, was unfolded from least to the greatest. "Fire" being the name for both a condition and an effect; so, also, of the other three successive terms.

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Visitors Views

"I think it is a beautiful service." R.M.

"I am very impressed."

"I enjoyed the service and all were very kind to me. I will make it back again." I.S.

"Useful tools to enlightenment."

"Very well worth while."

"Always helpful & enjoy the peace—Good work."

"A need was met for us both today—God bless & Thank you."

"Very nice—enjoyed it very much."

"Gives me strength."

"I liked my first visit, and I think I'm going to return. I learned a lot." D.D.

"After the services I feel a great strength within also during the services here I feel a warmth & glow surrounding me. It's of great help to me."



"It opened a new depth of understanding." H.P.

"It was a refreshing experience—but I would like to attend several more meetings before formalizing any opinions." J.W.C.

"The message delivered from the Divine Infinite Intelligence has truly inspired me to get about the work of the Divine of which I am a channel of."

"I found this to be a very interesting & enlightening experience. Since this was the first time I have ever been to a service of this type, I cannot really express my feelings until I think more about it." D.L.B.

"I was deeply moved by the service, and shall return again." H.G.

SPIRITUALIST DICTIONARY

SUBJECTIVIST THEORY OF
ETHICS

Theory of philosophy which would ascribe ethics to the results of environments and social conditioning alone, recognizing no influence outside of the natural world, and causation.

SUBLIMINAL

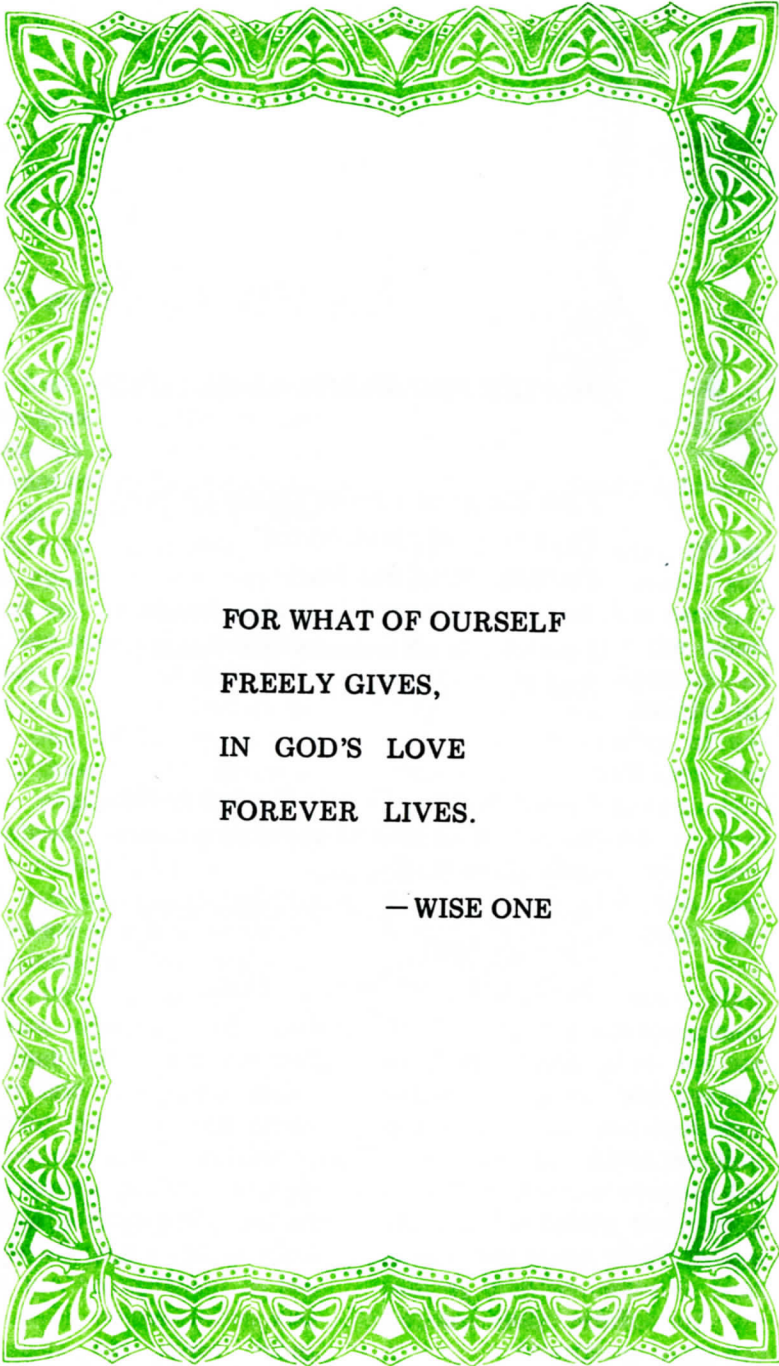
Psychological term for all mental processes below the 'threshold' of consciousness.

SUDRE, RENE

Psychic researcher and French scientist, Professor L'Ecole des hautes Etudes Sociales, vice-president of the National Laboratory for Psychical Research, co-worker with Dr. Gustave Geley at the Institut Metapsychique 1921-1926. A prolific writer on psychic subjects. Does not accept the spirit hypothesis. Was responsible for the French translation of many important books.

SUFISM

A mystical development within Islam, mostly of Persian influence. Their doctrines summarized are: 1. God alone exists: He is in all things, and all things are in Him. 2. All things are emanations from Him. 3. All religions are indifferently. They serve a purpose, however, as leading to realities. The most profitable in this respect is Islam, of which Sufism is the true philosophy. 4. There is no distinction between good and evil; for God is the author of all. 5. It is God who determines the will of man; therefore man is not free in his actions. 6. The soul existed before the body, in which it is confined as in a cage. Death is not to be desired, for it is then the Sufi returns to the bosom of the Deity. 7. Apart from the grace of God, no man can attain to this spiritual union; it may however be attained by fervent prayer. 8. The principal duty of the Sufi is meditation on the unity of God, the remembrance of the Divine names and progressive advancement in the tariquat, or journey of life so as to attain unity with God.



FOR WHAT OF OURSELF
FREELY GIVES,
IN GOD'S LOVE
FOREVER LIVES.

— WISE ONE

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL HEALING

*I ask the great Unseen Healing Force
To remove all obstructions
From my mind and body
And to restore me to perfect health.
I ask this in all sincerity and honesty
And I will do my part.*

*I ask this great Unseen Healing Force
To help both present and absent ones
Who are in need of help
And to restore them to perfect health.
I put my trust
In the Love and Power of God.*

Healing Hands

Before we can experience anything we must first believe and accept it; there must be some rapport in our consciousness. In applying this basic principle to our health, it becomes apparent how very important our own thoughts are. We often create for ourselves the very conditions that we so abhor, for our adversities become our attachments. By feeding these thought forms so much negative energy, we magnetically draw them to us on the physical plane.

It behooves us to become more aware of our acceptances and rejections. We are constantly being bombarded by the mass mind with so-called facts that too much sun will give us skin cancer, too much cold—the flu, and too much work—a nervous breakdown. When these limited acceptances with their rejections of our divine right to perfect health are brought out in the light, they sound more and more like old wives' tales.



by Sandy Johnson*

God does not say, "Now, you've had too much sun so here is some skin cancer." The sadness is that the belief in and the acceptance of these statements greatly increases the possibility of experiencing the conditions. The teachings of The Living Light have already shown us that discord and disease we create for ourselves by the disharmony of our own negative thinking.

Let us spend more time permeating our consciousness with the truth that we are whole, complete and perfect and that peace and harmony reign supreme. When we find ourselves showing concern for another by telling them they smoke too much which causes cancer, may we consider that we are only reinforcing the
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HEAVENLY HOME

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Electricity was evolved from Light; light from Heat; heat from the central, primordial condition, Fire. If the language of scientists would better meet the popular necessity, I would affirm that Matter and Motion, or Substance and Force, are the eternal twin principles at the origin and foundation of the universal whole. The primitive or lowest form of motion as angular; hence, as the first legitimate effect, Fire: the next advancement in the form of the motion, ascending out of the angular, evolved Heat; when the perfect circular motion was developed, then Light flowed throughout infinitude; the next step in the progression of motion unfolded the spiral, and forthwith, as from an inconceivable vortex of substance and force, a boundless ocean of Electricity overwhelmingly floods and enchains the systems of immensity.

Let us now confine our observations and reflections to our own planet; the round earth beneath our feet, with

its atmosphere envelopment over our heads. Minerals constitute the body of our globe; vegetation succeeds and crowns the mineral compounds; animals succeed the vegetable empire; and the human world, mankind, succeeds and covers all, and is the proprietor of all predecessors—minerals, vegetables, animals. This truth is not only clearly demonstrated by the actual manifestations, of nature, but it is as easy of comprehension as the simplest proposition in arithmetic.

The earth is an immense chemical laboratory. The four or the sixty-four elementary bodies—solids, fluids, gases, etc.—are in its constitution, and the indwelling laws of development are everywhere the same; therefore, whatever can occur in our Sun, in Arcturus, in any helio-centre in space, can be and is repeated, on a scale more or less limited and perfect, under our very feet, over our heads, before and within our very eyes, day by day and hour by hour.

(continued next issue)

The hand of God is the poet's pen.

—The Wise One

News & Views



*by Duncan Robertson **

While rock music may have many human fans, it apparently does not even rank on the hit parade in the world of plants. A Denver plant researcher, Dorothy Retallack, placed ordinary house and garden plants in a closed cabinet with a speaker to one side, and proceeded to try out a variety of musical tastes on them — including Classical, Avante-Garde, Rock, Country and Western.

She found that music in general seemed to make the plants grow. East Indian Temple ragas, for example, aroused favorable response from all the plants used — petunias, carnations, beans and squash.

All types of music seemed to make the plants grow faster... except Country and Western and Rock. Retallack says the Country and Western seemed to have no effect at all, one way or the other. However, Acid-Rock was a complete disaster: the researcher found that all the plants literally leaned away from the speaker when exposed to Rock, as if trying to escape and would not bloom. At the end of three weeks exposure to Rock the plants were dying.

GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP AND PHYSICAL UNFOLDMENT

by E.W. and M.H. Wallis

THE BASIS AND CULTIVATION OF MEDIUMSHIP

Continued from last issue—

Ella Wheeler Wilcox points out in a forcible manner the great need there is for earnestness and steady devotion to secure success. 'So many of us are shilly-shallying along life in these days. We do nothing seriously. We are in earnest about nothing. We all want to be multi-million-aired, and we are looking for sudden and quick methods of success. By success we mean accumulating a large fortune. Our eye is out for the sign, "A millionaire while you wait," as we pursue our daily avocations. Just as sure as the continual leaking of a faucet wastes water in a reservoir, so this continual frittering of our mental forces in frivolous and nonfocussed thought wastes our moral and mental strength.

"The man who is in earnest not only brings the full powers of his own mind and soul to bear upon his project, but he draws about him the influences of invisible intelligences who people space and come to the aid of the deserving. Whatever your aim is at this moment, be in earnest."

How to Develop Mediumship

The question, 'How can we develop mediumship?' may sound rather heretical to some Spiritualists, who would in all probability reply, 'What have we to do with development? That is the affair of the spirits. If they want us to become their mediums let them do the work, and not expect us to do it for them.' This attitude of mind was a perfectly natural one when it was supposed that spirits were exalted beings, possessing supernatural attributes; but, as our knowledge of the psychical nature of man has increased, we have come to realize that the powers which are possessed and employed by spirits already exist in us—dormant it may be, but inherent in our spiritual nature. This question then, 'Can mediums assist in the development of their powers, or must they blindly surrender themselves to be manipulated by people on "the other side" of whom they know little or nothing?' is one that requires careful

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

In keeping with Serenity's policy to encourage expression by all its students, this column contains the unedited articles submitted by the children attending our Lyceum. —Editor

Self Dicipline is improving your self, bettering your self, teaching your self to harmo-nize. Self Dicipline teaches you to be in harmony with things. To be one with them. To know and be aware of things. the colors are blue and yellow.

Orianne Smith, Age 11

God moves threw evrey-thing like tres and flowers and rockes and water and god is every thing. I think the coler of god is yellow.

Yvonne Fernandes, Age 10

My responsibility would be to take care of the grass is some-one asked me, and that is God's nature.

Lisa Toquinto, Age 7

My responsibility is to keep my room clean.

Michael Field, Age 5

My favorite color is purple.

Maureen Connolly, Age 5

Balance-When your playing with a ball and when you through on the floor it needs balance because it will roll over.

Virginia Kohl, Age 11

When I see color I feel good I like yellow best of all yellow is happy.

Mary Connolly, Age 7

I like the sun because it's yellow and yellow is spirit and color is happy and love.

Desmond Fernandes, Age 6

I like when I see a rainbow because it has lots of colors. My favorite color is green because when some one talks about green it makes me think about camping. I like color because it makes me think about the world.

Sean Connolly, Age 9

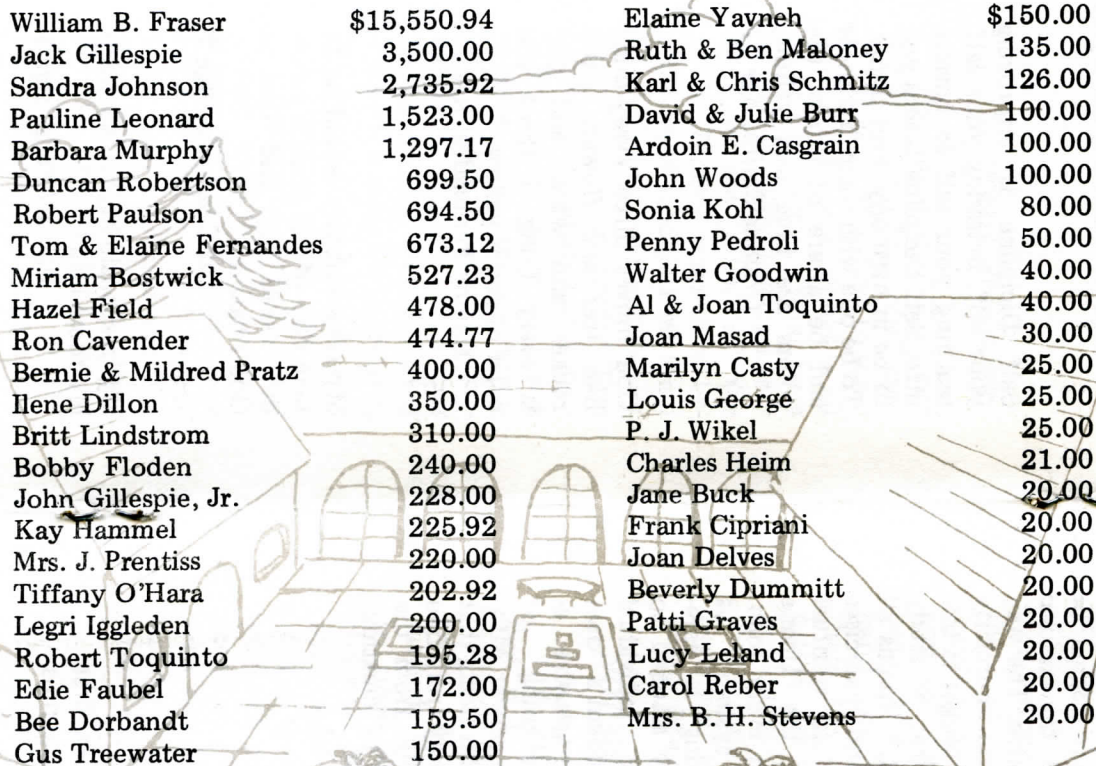
Color is blue and green I feel fine and nice around color.

Michael Field, Age 5

Serenity Church Builders

GOAL: \$540,000

JANUARY 1973 TO DATE \$32,645.77



William B. Fraser	\$15,550.94	Elaine Yayneh	\$150.00
Jack Gillespie	3,500.00	Ruth & Ben Maloney	135.00
Sandra Johnson	2,735.92	Karl & Chris Schmitz	126.00
Pauline Leonard	1,523.00	David & Julie Burr	100.00
Barbara Murphy	1,297.17	Ardoine E. Casgrain	100.00
Duncan Robertson	699.50	John Woods	100.00
Robert Paulson	694.50	Sonia Kohl	80.00
Tom & Elaine Fernandes	673.12	Penny Pedroli	50.00
Miriam Bostwick	527.23	Walter Goodwin	40.00
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CHILDREN'S BUILDING BLOCKS

Yvonne & Desmond Fernandes	170.00
Erik Masad	25.00
Michael Field	21.00
Lisa Toquinto	10.00
Virginia Kohl	5.00

We gratefully acknowledge gifts to the Serenity Church Building Fund. Donations and pledges may be made payable to Serenity Spiritualist Association. Contributions are deductible for income tax purposes.

The Living Light

THE LIVING LIGHT is a unique book, presenting the first and fresh expression of the individual understanding of a Great teacher from other dimensions, known to us only as *The Old Man*. This book, given as a series of discourses to a class in spiritual unfoldment through the mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin, contains the understanding developed in *The Old Man* through centuries of study in the higher realms of Light. The lessons to be perceived are not new. In fact, they are very, very old, but they are new and alive to certain levels of our con-

sciousness. This is why they are given now, in our time, to those who seek. These lessons are not based on dogma or creed, rather on the natural laws of the universe. The way is not easy, but the simplicity of truth is gently taught in this inspirational course of study which, if applied, contains all the teachings and exercises necessary to unfold spiritual

awareness, the Divine spark in every man.

The system of teaching is carefully attuned to the individual student's own progressive awakening of the power within his being that he may truly free his soul from the bondage of creation.



SELECTED PASSAGE:

He who does what is to be done without thought or interest in results is ever free to do the work of the Divine.

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SERENITY PUBLICATIONS

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GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP

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consideration.

Admitting that the spirits are the prime movers in producing the phenomena which demonstrate their presence, there can surely be no objection to the desire on the part of sensitives to know how they can provide the conditions which will render them fit and proper instruments for the spirits to use; how best to supply them with the 'power'—physical, psychical, mental, or moral—which they require.

NOT MERE CONDUITS

We unhesitatingly affirm that it is not necessary that mediums should regard themselves as mere 'conduits' through which the spirits are to pour just whatever they choose. Nay, we go further, and claim that if mediumship is to be lifted above the plane of mere sensationalism, mediums must study their own powers, and learn how to provide the conditions requisite for their own unfold-

ment, so as to exercise a determining influence over the results and share the responsibility as well as the pleasures and spiritual benefits accruing from the co-operative association. It is true that no one can become a medium solely by his own act, or by his own will; but surely it must be manifest that those whose attention and anticipation are directed towards the reception of intimations from the spirit side of life are much more likely to be affected thereby than those persons who are hostile—or, if not actively antagonistic, heedless and indifferent.

Although there are certain general rules which apply to mediumistic development each medium will require some special condition, or conditions, which will facilitate the best manifestation of his particular powers. Hence the urgent necessity that he should intelligently co-operate with, rather than render blind obedience to, the spirits who seek to control him.

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Pearls of wisdom are the tears of conscience.

—Wise One



Cook Book Capers

RECIPE FROM: *NICARAGUAN TOUR*

POLLO EN JUGO DE NARANJA Y PINA (Chicken in Orange Juice and Pineapple)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| ½ cup raisins | 3 tablespoons oil |
| 1 cup orange juice | ½ cup crushed pineapple,
drained |
| 1 3½ lb. chicken, cut into
serving pieces | 2 tablespoons sugar |
| ½ cup flour mixed with | ¼ teaspoon cinnamon |
| 1 teaspoon salt and | 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves |
| freshly ground pepper | ½ cup sliced almonds |

Soak raisins in orange juice two to three hours. Dredge chicken in seasoned flour. Heat oil in skillet. Saute chicken until golden brown. Transfer to shallow baking dish. Add remaining ingredients to raisins and orange juice and spoon mixture over chicken. Bake in 325 degree oven for 30 minutes. Baste frequently. Raise heat to 400 degrees. Continue baking 10 minutes. Serves 4.

BEGINNING ANEW

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gain. But the payment, so-called, and the price for gaining it, is not considered by the minds of men when they choose so many multitudes of desire.

A person may say, *Well, I just want to be happy*. Now when you say you want to be happy, the question must rise in the mind, how many levels of consciousness in my own mind (and there are eighty-one levels of consciousness) have I considered when I decided that I wanted to be happy. A person makes that statement and he goes through life and he finds certain times when he is happy. He finds other times when he is miserable, but that that he asked for he has, in truth, received. He asked from a level of consciousness for happiness, and whenever he is on that level of consciousness, he experiences happiness. But he did not consider the other eighty levels of consciousness, and so when he is not on those levels of consciousness, he is not happy; he is miserable.

And so this philosophy teaches Total Consideration is Divine Love. That is what Divine Love is. Total Acceptance is Divine Will. That's what Divine Will is.

And so pause in consciousness in the eternal

moment, the only moment that you have any power over, in truth, the moment of now, and ask yourself about your own life, for our life is the direct effect of the laws that we alone have established. God granted us this great freedom — this ten percent choice — to choose our own desires, ever in keeping with the eternal law of the soul that is destined to free itself while yet encased in flesh. And so, my friends, beginning anew takes a perspective in effort and application of the Law of Personal Responsibility, to take unto yourselves this moment the personal responsibility which is the infinite divine law to face ourselves — to be honest with ourselves. If you are not happy with the company you keep, it is only, of course, revealing the level of consciousness that you insist upon entertaining in thought. If you are not happy with your state in life, look within, for deep within your own consciousness lies the power to change your attitude of mind and the moment you truly change your attitude, you will change all things around and about you.

And so, my friends, each experience in life is God's divine message revealing to us

(continued page 29)



Busy Bees

*by Miriam Bostwick**

The December social *Serenity Christmas*, was a most festive occasion. The Children's Philosophy Class entertained with a medley of Christmas carols. A cheery fire warmed the hall. And after dinner, which was a gourmet's delight, *The Serenity Game* was played for the first time publicly. The playing of the game will be a regular feature of future socials.

Around mid-December our first television commercial appeared on Channel 44. It captured the dignity and spirit of *The Serenity Game* while at the same time presenting it as fun to play. The spirit friends have forecast a world-wide distribution of the game.

And speaking of forecasts, Mr. Goodwin delivered the Twelfth Annual World Forecast on December 28, copies of which are now available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: —

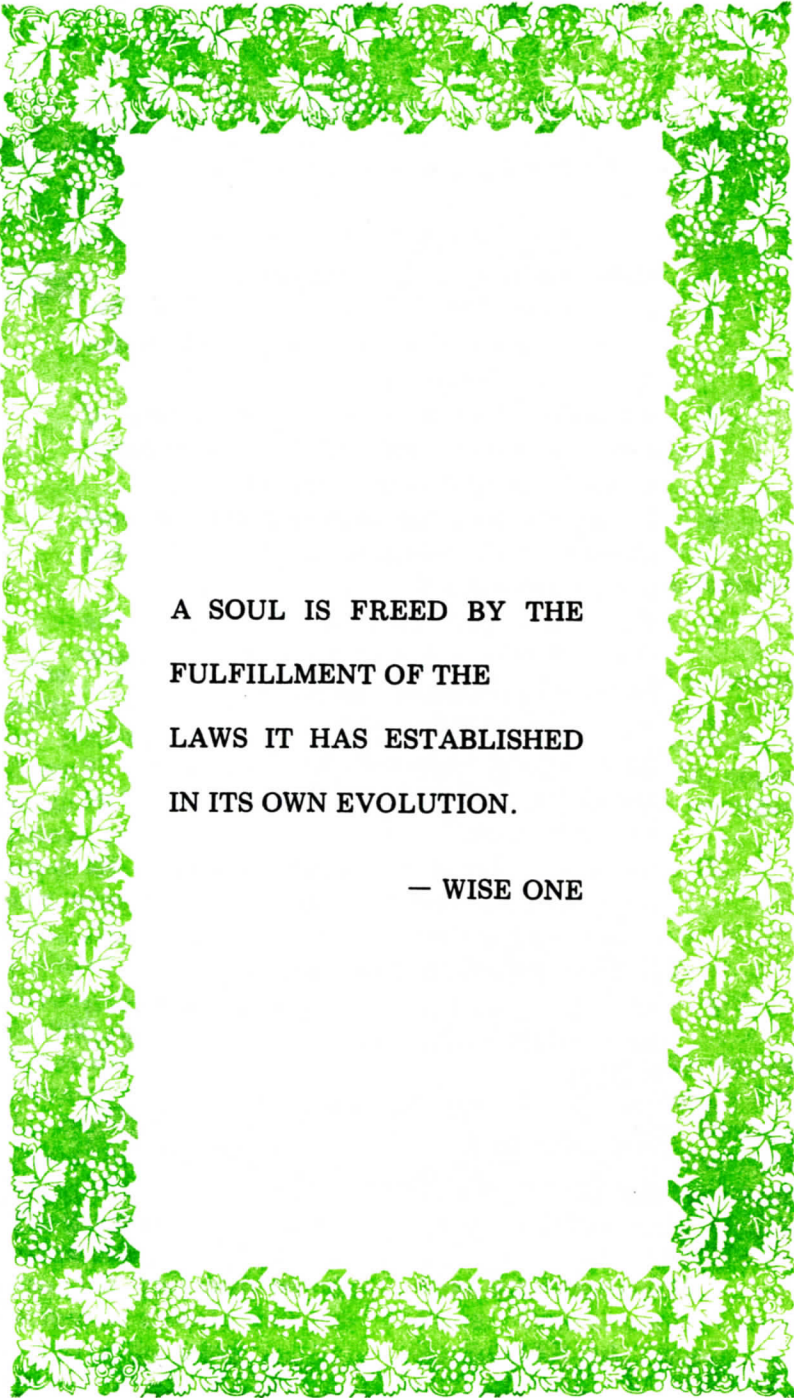
Dinner-Social:

All are cordially invited to attend the January 17 dinner-social when *Serenity* goes on a *NICARAGUAN TOUR*. The social hour begins at 6:30 p.m.

Bake Sale: January 24
Place: Cove Shopping Center
Blackfield Road, Tiburon

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

1. *We believe in Infinite Intelligence.*
2. *We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.*
3. *We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith constitute true religion.*
4. *We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.*
5. *We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.*
6. *We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."*
7. *We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's physical and spiritual laws.*
8. *We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.*
9. *We affirm that the Precept of Prophecy contained in the Bible is a Divine attribute proven through Mediumship.*



A SOUL IS FREED BY THE
FULFILLMENT OF THE
LAWS IT HAS ESTABLISHED
IN ITS OWN EVOLUTION.

— WISE ONE

BECOMING A SPIRITUALIST

by H. Gordon Burroughs

THE TRUE SPIRITUALIST

Continued from last issue—

The real Spiritualist will at all times place the welfare of the cause he represents and the church to which he belongs before his own personal feelings. He realizes that in cooperation there is strength and he will make every effort to cement together as strongly as possible all the branches of the organization to which he belongs, even through he does not always agree with the personal opinions of some of the members. He does not allow his personal likes or dislikes to bias his opinions in any way. He is ever ready to lend a helping hand to those who are working to build a Cause that will bring humanity in closer touch with the Father and thus bring happiness to the world.

The great truth that like attracts like is recognized by the Spiritualist. If he wishes to bring to himself the higher Intelligences from the Spirit World, he must conduct his life upon the higher planes of thought here, so that the instructions that will come to him from the Spirit World will be such that he can mold

his character thereby, thus realizing happiness here as well as here-after.

He will continue to educate and improve himself as he goes on through life, for only by so doing can he become a fitting instrument for the highest Intelligences of the Spirit World who are ever seeking to give to the world the messages that will bring peace and happiness to mankind.

The true Spiritualist and the true medium are working in love, confidence, and sincerity for the common good of all, ever hopeful, ever trusting, that all efforts will be victorious and that a misguided humanity will be led to the mountaintop of knowledge.

FAITH IN ACTION

"You tell me there is a God, you tell me there is justice— and you expect me to believe!" says the person crushed and comfortless by the wayside of life.

(continued next issue)



Lest We Forget

Dean Cavender
 Bessie Davis
 Duke
 Eula Fiel
 Isa Goodwin
 Kathleen Graves
 Irene
 Grace Johnson

Jonquil
 Harold Lucas
 Lucia
 Erik Othberg
 Poppy
 Tica
 Robert Toquinto Jr.
 Britta Uppstrom

To send a helpful thought of joy and light to those you love who have passed to the higher life, list their names in this column. Donation of one dollar per name is requested.

BEGINNING ANEW

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alone the laws that we have established and that we insist upon the continuity of them. So look wisely at experience, look it straight in the face and accept through the soul faculty of humility that you alone have established that law.

Serenity and the philosophy of The Living Light know beyond a shadow of any doubt that God is not a doer; God is Intelligence, infinitely expressing Itself. We know beyond any shadow of doubt that there is one intelligence, and only one, expressing through everything; that so-called division and so-called separatism is an illusion created by our own minds that we may feel a self-importance. The need for feeling important is created by the mind as the soul strives to express itself fully, wholly and completely through the form called the mental body. When man obstructs the freedom and the flow and the joy of his own evolving, eternal soul, then the soul, not having the fullness of its own divinity and being obstructed by the intellect of men's minds, causes a feeling of great need and inadequacy in the mental-emotional body. Man, at that time, starts to do whatever the mind thinks is

necessary to fill that great void, that gap, in his own consciousness. And so it is, as little children educated by a world called civilization, programmed the minds of children to limitation, to obstruction, to separatism, in order that they may continue, by establishing mental law, this inadequacy called egoism the soul suffers.

God is an Infinite, Intelligent Power called Divine Love, called Impartial Energy. When man, through this inadequacy of egotism and egoism causes these obstructions to that flow of God, then he pays a very dear and great price for he starts into what is called the games of life. As a little child he knows his little mind, for it is programmed by civilization. He knows what will bring him attention, and attention is the vehicle through which God's love flows. All things that are obstructing the divine, eternal flow of God have a need for attention, for they have a need for energy.

And so it is, we grow from childhood to so-called adulthood, and we slowly, but surely, commit suicide. Each moment we try to kill ourselves by the games of our intellect. We destroy the peace of God and God's right to

(continued page 31)



Poet's Pen

PRAYER

*Loving Spirit — God
I ask that you
Guide me thru each day,
Help me meet my needs
In your "loving" way.
Let me listen to that
Still small voice,
For when I listen
Then I can rejoice,
For your inspiration
Has guided me to perfect love
And perfect harmony—
For this, I thank you,
In my small way—
For I know you guide me
Day by day.*

Amen

—Kay Pipkin

BEGINNING ANEW

continued from page 29

flow freely through our form. And so, man, in truth, is his worst enemy; and man, in truth, can be his own best friend.

It is time, my friends, in beginning anew that we stop destroying the vehicle through which our eternal soul is expressing. The vehicle through which our soul is expressing is the house and the temple of God, and when we continue dictating to God how things shall be, we continue to destroy the temple of God. That is the payment that we are making in this moment. And so, the time comes we cry like voices in the wilderness to whatever God we have conceived in our mind, totally disregarding the God of impartial, eternal truth that doesn't change to suit the whims of man, for the minds of men shall never know the God of Gods. The minds of men are only capable of knowing the false, conceived gods of authority that they have created by their own intellects.

And so, all prophets have taught that it is easier for a child to enter the kingdom than a man of great knowledge and intellect, for the more we expand the intellect, the mental body, the less we express the simple, the humble

expression of God. We cannot, our minds, and we will not change infallible, immutable law. It is not only fool-hearted to attempt to do so, it is a revelation of a type of insanity to insist upon trying to do so. We can do many things with our minds but our minds are limited in respect to divine law. If we have difficulty in acceptance, then we know that to the degree of difficulty we have in acceptance, we know how much we are relying upon our limited mind. If we are concerned over the effects of our efforts, and God forbid if we dictate what those effects will be, it reveals to us what our true God is that controls our soul. If we dictate, or are concerned over the effects, that is telling us, in truth, that our God is an idol, a false God created by our own ego. If we do what we have to do because it is right to do it, because we know it in the depths of our being and are not concerned over the effects, then we are freed. For a man not concerned over the effects of his efforts is a wise man who knows God's infallible law and what need is there for concern if you know the law of God? You have no interest and no concern over effects for the law itself reveals the effects

(continued page 33)

THE LIVING LIGHT PHILOSOPHY

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*BEGINNING ANEW**continued from page 31*

and you have nothing to be interested or concerned about. We all know the law of gravity. We are not concerned nor interested in what the effect will be. We already know the law and, therefore, we already know the results. And when you begin anew and you change your attitudes, you will awaken to infallible law and awakening to infallible law, you will flow with it and you will have no need for self-

concern. You will have no need to wonder when your life is going to change. It is in the process of changing all the time. You will have no need to wonder about wealth or health, or poverty or sickness for you will know the law, and knowing the law, you will know your life, and knowing your life, you will be freed and you will be what God designed you, in truth, to be.

*STUDENT'S CORNER**continued from page 7*

conscious and unconscious taped acceptances which may very detrimental to their health. There is a Higher Power and by placing our ac-

ceptances with God in Divine Will, we will not have to experience all of the discord and disease that we know today.

An open heart fears no man.

Man cannot understand what he cannot demonstrate.

—The Wise One

THE PENETRALIA

continued from page 5

This scornful term is very promptly applied to any person, association, political party, or institution, which advertises to perform a certain feat or produce some special result, but does not accomplish it; yet dogmatically persists, nevertheless, in affirming entire fulfilment of promises publicly made or pledges privately circulated. The word "Humbug" is usually given to a pretender, to a mountebank, or counterfeiter; and sometimes, to that which is neither of these, but is thoughtlessly prefixed to a matter because it is "new" and opposed to the established routine of law, physic, and divinity.

Have we any examples?

Yes; many political schemes and some ecclesiastical institutions have never redeemed promises which they have from time to time published in their bulletins and programmes. The popular evangelical system of reforming mankind by means of religious ordinances and canonical rituals, has not performed a tenth part of what centuries ago their progenitors advertised to accomplish long

before the present era.

What is Man?

Man is a product of all the Universe. Physiologically—of all orders and degrees of matter: psychologically—of all essences and properties of Mind.

How should man be studied?

Man should be studied as the Epitome of Father-God and Mother-Nature. He may ask of his existence through science, through art, through music, through the emblems of visible creation, through anatomy, through physiology, through psychology, through theology, through philosophy, through imagination, through conscience, through all the elements of his heart-love, and through all the attributes of his Wisdom.

What is Science?

Science is an intellectual perception and systematic classification of Facts.

What is Art?

Art is the temporary beautification of ordinary objects by the skill of human nature; the transformation of lower substance into human uses and available benefits.

(continued next issue)

Man is freed by hell, and saved by heaven.

—Wise One



THIS IS MY CHURCH

This is my Church.
It is composed of
people like me.
We make it what it is.

I want it to be a
Church that is a
lamp to the path
of pilgrims, leading
them to goodness,
truth and beauty.

It will be, if I am.

It will be friendly if I am.
Its pews will be filled, if I help to
fill them.
It will do a great work, if I work.
It will bring other people into its
worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

It will be a Church of loyalty and love,
of fearlessness and faith, and a Church
with a noble spirit—if I, who make it
what it is, am filled with these.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall
dedicate myself to the task of being
all of these things that I want my
Church to be.

—From “I Belong”
by Hoover Rupert

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NSAC

